

### ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to methods of reducing the effects of neuropathically induced negative sensory phenomena (NSP). NSP are manifested as the decreased ability to feel light touch, pain, proprioception, vibration, warmth/heat, and coolness/cold. The NSP are treated by application of an anesthetic. The anesthetic is preferably a benzoic acid-based anesthetic. Specifically, a patch containing about 5% lidocaine may be used. The anesthetic is transdermally administered to a patient suffering from NSP at or near the locus of the negative sensory phenomena.